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BRIEF SURVEY

OF THE

GREAT EXTENT AND EVIL TENDENCIES

OF THE

LOTTERY SYSTEM,

AS EXISTING IN THE

UNITED STATES.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF A MEETING OF CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA,
FAVOURABLE TO THE ENTIRE ABOLITION OF LOTTERIES.

Philadelphia.
WILLIAM BROWN, PRINTER.

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AT A MEETING of a number of citizens of Philadelphia friendly to the entire abolition of Lotteries, held on the 12th day of January, 1833, an Essay was presented and read by JOE R. TYSON, Esq. who had prepared it in compliance with a previous request, upon the history, extent, and pernicious consequences of that species of gambling.

Whereupon it was Resolved, That five thousand copies of said Essay be printed, for gratuitous distribution through the United States.

(Signed) THOMAS C. JAMES, Chairman.

Attest.—JOHN M. ATWOOD, Secretary.

A BRIEF SURVEY, &c.

GAMBLING, by means of the lottery, is not of very modern origin. Though it has been tolerated, and even fostered by Christian communities, it dates its birth so far back as a remote period in the history of the Romans. The uses to which it was applied are faithfully delineated by Menestrier, a Jesuit father, who published the result of his researches about the close of the seventeenth century. As it is not necessary to trace its existence, or ascertain its effects, in Pagan lands, let us scan it in its consequences nearer our own day, when the meridian sun of Christianity is dispensing his genial rays for the illumination and improvement of the world.

The Christian world is indebted to the republic of Genoa for suggesting the idea of resorting to the lottery as a measure of finance. Its introduction into Great Britain was early, being nurtured by the paternal hand of government as a happy expedient for raising money upon the principle of voluntary taxation. The first lottery mentioned in the English history, was established in 1567; and Maitland of Stowe, informs us that, in 1569, two years after its commencement, there were but three lottery offices in the kingdom. A few years sufficed to produce an enormous accession to the number, and divers statutes were enacted, to assuage, by restrictions and penalties, the malignity of their influence. But no emollient was equal to the emergency of its purpose; a new genius awoke into being, competent to evade, by dexterity and stratagem, the provisions of each new law. At length its enormity had become too

obvious and crying to be longer withstood without a serious inquiry into the measures which had been employed for its palliation. That inquiry was made, and on the recommendation of a Committee of the House of Commons, new guards were applied. Still checks were found to be but temporary alleviations, which, like most remedies of that nature, produced the effect of giving false security to the patient, rather than efficacy in counteracting the disease. Nothing less than the total abolition of the system, was capable of expelling a poison so deeply seated and pervading.

It may well be supposed, that if it prevailed in England when this country was colonized, the policy would be observable in acts relating to its early settlement. Accordingly, the second lottery granted by Parliament was authorised in the reign of the first James, for carrying on the colonization of Virginia. The prevalence of lotteries in the United States, has since continued, notwithstanding their extinction in the country from which they were imported. Legislative sanction may here be seen given to a vice, under the various pretences of excavating canals, and building bridges, as well as for the construction of edifices erected for the solemn purposes of worshipping God! Unhappy, indeed, that pious professors should consent deeply *to injure* the cause of religion and morality with the ostensible view of aiding their promotion!

But whoever has been instrumental in the diffusion of lottery grants in the United States, the objects to which they have been applied are not more multifarious than their number and amount have been overwhelming. There now exist, in the different states, no less than twelve or fourteen lotteries which claim the authority of legal sanction for their origin. What the amounts hazarded in a single week may be, it is difficult to calculate with any thing like accu-

racy. That it is even prodigious in amount, may be presumed from the fact, that in the single State of New York, schemes have been issued, since the adoption of her new Constitution, to the enormous sum of thirty-seven millions of dollars. In Pennsylvania, schemes issued under the authority of seven other states, are illicitly vended to an incredible amount. It could not have been anticipated by the provincial assembly of 1762, when it prohibited lotteries with so striking a preamble as the following, that a few years would witness their multiplication to such an extent: "Whereas, many mischievous and unlawful games, called lotteries, have been set up in this province, which tend to the manifest corruption of youth, and the ruin and impoverishment of many poor families; and whereas, such pernicious practices may not only give opportunities to evil disposed persons to cheat and defraud the honest inhabitants of this province, but prove introductive of vice, idleness, and immorality, injurious to trade, commerce, and industry, and against the common good, welfare, and peace of this province, &c." This preamble shows the sentiments of the colonists in regard to the evil itself; it is denounced in the body of the act as "a public and common nuisance;" the sale of a ticket is prohibited under the penalty of twenty pounds; and the forfeitures incurred by infraction, are given to the Overseers of the Poor. This act, in displaying the domestic feelings of the colonists at an early period, likewise demonstrates the foreign origin of the lottery system. But this is more distinctly proved by its language, which expressly *excepts* from the operation of the statute, "all state lotteries erected and licensed by *act of Parliament* in Great Britain." There is no doubt, that the parent country taught her imitative offspring to legitimate the lottery, by pointing out the uses which it might subserve. This fact informs us, what is by no means unim-

portant, that the lottery is not indigenous to this soil; that it did not spring up in this country, the result of necessity or the dictate of pecuniary expediency; but, that our progenitors condemned it as a mischievous and unlawful *game*,* and opposed to their religious sensibilities and moral sentiments. They pronounced it detrimental to youth and ruinous to the poor—the source of fraud and dishonesty—alike hurtful to industry, commerce, and trade—as it was baneful to the interests of good citizenship, morality, and virtue. Let us take a rapid survey of its tendency as a public measure, and of the operation of its effects upon those who come within the sphere of its influence, both as the source of pecuniary emolument or ruin to its votaries, and as a meritorious instrument of adventure, or the means of idleness, dissipation, licentiousness, and crime.

As a public measure, it must be regarded in the shocking aspect of its noxious and destructive character to the individual, considered as a member of civil society. Most governments recognise the importance of good dispositions and industrious habits as indispensable ingredients in the composition of a worthy citizen. This at least is the theory, and in most cases, the tendency of the practice of most governments which are founded on the principles of civil freedom and social equality. When we encourage industry or reward genius, when we establish institutions of learning or give birth to those of benevolence, we intend to *repress* idleness and vice, and to bring into exercise the better dispositions of the mind and heart. Every country, however, though it may acknowledge in the abstract, the supereminent importance of industry and virtue, has, in some form or other, given countenance to idleness and furnished nutriment to vice. France when she receives the prodigious sum of 14,000,000 of francs per

* Vide Note 1, Appendix.

annum, from her gambling tables, seems to act upon the principle that so large a sum in her public coffers, counter-weighs the private injury which they are the means of inflicting. Thus it may have been with Great Britain when the lottery was made an instrument of finance, but its abolition proves that in that opinion, she knows herself to have been mistaken. Those States of our republican Union which adhere to the system of raising money by lottery, must likewise believe, if they reflect at all upon the principle upon which it is founded, that public aggrandizement is preferable to public and private virtue. But why is the public money expended for the suppression of vice? For what purposes are houses of refuge and penitentiaries for solitary confinement? Why are seminaries established for moral and literary instruction at the public expense? No, as the principle can not be maintained, that public wealth should be placed in competition with private merit, the argument must be relinquished as false and untenable. We are therefore reduced to the necessity of inquiring, whether lotteries are permitted to exist without reflection and regardless of consequences, or because public opinion has not been enlightened on the subject of their enormity? We believe the latter; and for the purpose of giving some exposition of their direful and lamentable effects, we propose to exhibit by well authenticated examples, some of the evils which they have entailed.

A brief comparison between lotteries and *manual* chance will convince any one that the lottery is the most injurious and ruinous of all systems of gaming. We are not desirous of concealing any of the horrors of the *Palais Royal* of Paris, nor of drawing a veil over the atrocities which are there committed, the fortunes that are wrecked, or the suicides which it leads to, but we shall contend upon facts

not to be controverted and upon reasoning plainly deduced, that the establishment of a *Palais Royal* in Philadelphia, or in any of our principal cities, is less earnestly to be deprecated, because less fruitful of injury than the continuance of our present lotteries. For the purposes of a fair contrast, we may refer to Scott's Visit to Paris in 1814, as a book which gives a competent insight into that scene of debauchery. We select this single instance, because from the protection which play receives from the government of France, as a means of revenue, and from a peculiar proclivity in the passions of the people, gambling is there made to present a spectacle of abandonment and vice deplorable without example.

Can we oppose to a picture such as *manual* chance there exhibits, any thing so dreadful and terrific in the operation of the lottery? It would be no difficult task to pourtray, by a stroke, in colours sufficiently black and hideous the true aspect of the latter, and ask whether the horrors of the *Palais Royal* would not dwindle in the comparison? But we prefer to exhibit its effects by cases and examples, and substitute a series of dry but well authenticated facts for general description.

Before we present some cases which have occurred in this country, let us review its effects in England, whence we have derived it. It will be recollected, that there the public coffers were enriched by it as an instrument of revenue, and that it was guarded by laws of great severity. The committee appointed by the House of Commons in the year 1808, examined individuals upon the evils of the lottery in general, as well as in its relation to its imperfections as a legal system. Crimes of every dye were found to be committed, suicides were frequent, and the extent of illegal insurances which it introduced, were greater than could have entered into the imaginations of

its enemies.—In the testimony of Robert Baker, Esq. a police magistrate of ten years standing, given before the committee, several striking instances are related, which had come under his notice, of frauds committed, and of the facilities which were given to forgery. His decided opinion is, that the money obtained for the public, by no means compensated the evils and distresses growing out of practices connected with the lottery. One case is narrated, which, as it shows the class of people to which the lottery proves most prejudicial, we will give in his own language : “ I remember one very strong instance of distress four or five years ago. It was the case of a journeyman who belonged to a club, which club purchased a lottery ticket which came up a great prize. The share of this man was £100, or thereabouts ; he had been an industrious working man before, and he was persuaded by his friends to invest the money in the stocks in the joint names of himself and his wife, in order to prevent his making away with it. He did so ; but he soon got into habits of idleness, now he was possessed of the money. It was to this cause to be attributed that he changed his habits of industry to those of drunkenness and idleness, and destroyed all his domestic comforts. It was the ruin of the family.”

In a written statement which Baker subsequently submitted to the committee, he expresses himself thus :

“ I am most decidedly of opinion, that the lotteries have the worst possible effects upon the morals of the people, inasmuch as they afford a ground-work for, and give a sort of public sanction to, that spirit of gambling which is so prevalent among the lower orders. That the practice of insuring frequently occasions *crimes* there can be no doubt. That it produces *distress* to a very great degree is still more clear.—Another most serious evil, frequently

arising from the same source, is the *dissention and misery it occasions in families*.—The bare possibility of obtaining a large sum in return for a small advance, is so strong an inducement with the lower classes to adventure, the ingenuity and profits of the persons whose interest it is to excite and keep alive in them the spirit of gambling are so great, that I am satisfied nothing short of the total discontinuance of lotteries will put an end to the mischiefs.”

He adds in the annotations subjoined to his communication :

“It is a common observation among manufacturers and master-tradesmen, that they find more difficulty in keeping the persons they employ steadily at work, during the drawing of the lottery than at any other time.”

The Rev. Wm. Gurney, who had been six years minister of the Free Chapel of St. Giles, deposed before the committee, that he found, in visiting among his parishioners, much of their domestic trials had their origin in the lottery ; that it was the fruitful source of conjugal differences ; that it was “a very general cause of distress ;” and that such was the infatuation of those who had once indulged, that money was thrown away upon adventures, “when the children have been starving, or at least wanting the common necessities of life.” His own language in another part of his deposition, will better illustrate the severity of its inflictions upon the poorer classes of society than the most successful attempt at abridgement.

“I know of a family in Holborn,” says he, “the last of whom died in an alms-house, owing to the lottery. This person was a widow. She was in a good line of business as a silk-dyer ; which I suppose brought her in about £400 a-year, clear. The foreman she had was in the habit of insuring, he was led astray, and they insured to the amount of £300 or £400 a-night, although the fore-

man had only £33 a year wages. It appeared, on his decease, he had insured immense sums of money. He died insolvent; I acted as his executor, and paid three or four shillings in the pound for him. He had received a great many bills for his mistress, which he had never crossed out, and he ruined her. She was not able to pay three shillings in the pound. She was obliged to go into an alms-house, and she died there in four or five months. A gentleman who drew the foreman into the snare was ruined by it. He formerly kept his carriage, and lived in Queen's Square. It was like intoxication with him. If a man gets into the habit he don't leave it.—I know of another very remarkable case. The man was a coachman. The family consisted of the man, his wife, and an orphan child they took care of. They resolved, as soon as they bought some tickets, to insure them, which they understood was legal. They got each of them one-sixteenth of a £20,000 prize, the coachman, his wife, and the child. From that time the man became a noted gambler in the lottery. He went out of his mind, and he was always raving about the lottery. He has since recovered his senses. His wife fretted herself to death. I attended her in her last moments.—I have known several instances in which I have given money to relieve the distresses of persons gambling in the lottery, which has been taken from them immediately at my own door. To one woman I gave five shillings, to buy bread with for herself and her children. I gave it as treasurer to a benevolent society. Her husband took it away, and went to one of those collectors of insurances and laid it out, and they were obliged to go to the overseer of the poor to get relief that night, otherwise they would have been starved.—There is another instance of a young woman now at Botany Bay. She had insured three numbers, which she had dreamed about, and she

procured money by improper means, which led her to her fate."

William Hale, a silk-manufacturer, and treasurer of the poor rates, gives it as his opinion, very emphatically expressed, that nothing is so pernicious to the labouring poor as the lottery—that it is the prolific parent of disorders and crimes—that no other mode of gambling would be so baneful—and that its evils are inherent and altogether irremediable. "If," he says, "I might give my opinion of the ill effects of the lottery, of the influence it has in corrupting the people,—and if I might form that opinion from the appearances in Spital-fields, I should be led to conclude, that there is no circumstance which conduces so much as the lottery to make the lower orders of the people *bad husbands, bad wives, bad children, and bad servants*. I know no one thing which has been productive of so many evils and so much *suicide* as the lottery. There is hardly a year but one or more have hung themselves, or cut their throats, from gambling in the lottery."

On a second examination he said: "I have conversed with several persons who have had to do with parochial concerns, and they all agree in the beggary produced from this cause; and I am convinced, that, independently of the depravity and guilt it occasions, *there is more lost than gained by the lottery to government.*"

The Rev. Brownlow Ford, the ordinary of Newgate, who had filled that station for the period of ten years, deposed, that the lottery was the author of great poverty and distress—that it was the acknowledged origin of much crime—and that it was the occasion of bringing many persons to the gallows. He says, "When I have put the question to malefactors, 'What first drove you to crime?' the answer has been, '*It was poverty from buying and insuring in the lottery.*'"

The evidence of Hector Essex, a pawnbroker, who had been in the business twenty-five years, is pregnant with proofs of the wonderful infatuation of persons engaged either in the purchase of tickets, or their insurance, by pawning plate, linen, beds, and the common necessities of life to obtain money, which was ventured and lost. He speaks of women as being most captivated by the allurements of the game, and alleges, that discord and bankruptcy, the distress and dispersion of families, always marched in its train. One instance is given of a female, who, though always unsuccessful, persevered until her husband was ruined. When informed of the fact, he drowned himself in a fit of despair.

Such are some of the facts elicited by the examinations of the committee of the House of Commons, whose report led to enactments, assuasive, they were considered, of the complicated and accumulated evils of the lottery. Other examinations show what it is here unnecessary to quote—the ingenious and multiplied expedients of the lottery venders for evading the laws, as well as the perfidy of the government officers in winking at transgressions, and partaking of the fruits of illicit adventures. The whole report discloses a scene of iniquity so multiform, and of misery so hopeless, as to sicken and appal the mind. The restrictions intended by new statutes soon ceased to exhibit any mitigation in their effects, till at last the whole system was absconded as the most noxious and venomous excrescence that could deform the legislation or poison the moral atmosphere of England. Its close was distinguished by events which perhaps will ever be remembered in the annals of self-destruction. A scheme was formed in London displaying several magnificent prizes of £50,000 and £100,000, which tempted to ventures of very large amount, and the night of the drawing was signalized by

fifty cases of suicide! With these tragedies terminated the career of the lottery in the English isle.—From facts of this character what opinion are we authorised to form of the magnitude of the evil? An evil which paralyzes industry, destroys domestic concord, saps the foundations of correct principles, and leads to the commission of the darkest crimes in the criminal calendar? What ought we to think of that legislation which can give it protection? As well might a legislature cherish by the public bounty, a monster whose pestilential and baneful breath scattered deformity, sickness, and death widely over the country.

If an investigation were made of its influence in this country, we should have no cause of triumph at an exemption from any of the ills which it inflicted on England. Cases are numerous, exhibiting its effects in producing great pecuniary distress, in exciting to the commission of extensive and multifarious frauds, and in leading to suicide and other atrocious felonies. The only difficulty consists, not in the want but in the selection of examples, since, from the respectability of relations and friends, much delicacy is necessary in the mention of circumstances. Though from this cause the names of the persons whose cases are detailed, may, with some exceptions, be suppressed, as well as the authorities upon which they are given, yet we pledge ourselves for the truth of each related, and can produce living witnesses of their accuracy.

We first give an extract from a letter written by Joseph Watson, Esq., formerly Mayor of Philadelphia, who, in addition to his general testimony, gives an affecting instance of moral aberration in the decline of life.

“I do not think it necessary, says he, to go into a detail of a number of cases that occur to my remembrance of the awful effects produced on individuals and families by the infatuation of lottery gambling. I have known individuals

of former good repute and standing in society, who, in bitter agony of feeling, have declared to me, that they were guilty of breach of trust, larceny, or other crimes, induced solely by gambling in lotteries, and vesting all their property, and that of others entrusted to them, in tickets. I will state to you a single case, some time, I think, in 1827. A gray-headed old man, of gentlemanly appearance and acquirements, was brought into the police office, charged with picking a pocket; his trunk was searched, and in it were found lottery tickets, plans, and schemes, for many past years. Being asked why so great a quantity of these were found in his possession, he answered, in substance, that they were the product of his lottery dealings for the last twelve or fifteen years, within which period he had actually squandered or expended for tickets as many thousand dollars, without at any time having been successful, except in trifling prizes—that he had recently spent his last dollar, his last ticket had come out a blank, and to prevent starvation, he had made the attempt for which he was brought up. This man, it was believed, had previously maintained an irreproachable character. I think he died a convict, in Walnut street prison.”

The following instance of wrecked happiness and fame, is from the pen of an estimable gentleman, whose character is a full guaranty for its correctness. We merely abridge his narrative by excluding extraneous circumstances.

“A young man, of respectable family, was in the employ of an extensive mercantile house in this city. (Philadelphia.) For a number of years he conducted himself with great propriety and fidelity, married an amiable young woman, with whom he lived happily, and had an interesting little family growing up around him. His salary was such as to enable him to live comfortably and respectably,

with a proper attention to frugality. For some time previous to the sad development of his dishonesty, there was an obvious change in his countenance and conduct at home. He became irritable, and showed some unkindness to his wife and children. One morning he was missed from the counting house * * *. He had eloped—and left his wife and children in a situation even more distressing than that of the widow and the fatherless. A note was found addressed to his employers, stating that he had been tempted many months before to purchase a lottery ticket, the possession of which had excited an insatiable thirst for buying more. That he had gone on for a considerable time, occasionally elated by obtaining a prize, and at other times almost in despair, racked with anxiety and suspense, and tortured with the fear of the consequences which must result from the iniquitous course he was pursuing. But the passion for this dreadful species of gambling had completely infatuated him—he exhausted his own funds in the purchase of tickets, and reached forth his hands to embrace the money of his employers. The compunctions which he first felt for so disgraceful an act, were soon drowned in the vain and false hope of retrieving his ruined fortunes. Again and again did he appropriate their money to gratify his unholy appetite for lottery tickets, contriving by false entries to conceal the robbery—until at length the sum became so great that it could not longer be kept a secret. Unable to face the degradation and reproach which must ensue, he took the desperate resolution of abandoning a faithful and affectionate wife and his helpless children, and absconded, leaving them destitute of almost every comfort. The sum of which he had defrauded his employers amounted to thousands of dollars.”

We cannot resist the temptation to quote the following account, given by a lottery vender of New York, as to the

destination of prizes which were sold by him in a certain class drawn during the autumn of 1831, and of his own impoverishment by purchasing in the lottery.

“The highest prize sold by me in Class 30, was \$50

Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	31,	do.	40
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Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	32,	do.	12
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	11,	do.	50
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Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	33,	do.	300
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	34,	do.	50
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Do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	35,	do.	100
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“The first prize, of \$50, was sold to a black man. I never saw him after.

“The second, of \$40, was sold to a black man. He spent it all in tickets, and got in my debt \$2.50, which he has not paid.

“The third, \$12, was sold to a neighbour of mine. He took the amount in tickets, and lost the whole. He never purchased of me after that.

“The fourth, of \$300, was sold to a journeyman baker. He drew a \$1,000 prize afterwards; he spent the whole \$300 prize with me, and, as I understand, he left his employment and the city much in debt.

“The fifth, of \$50, was sold to a woman who spent the whole for tickets, and more too, in less than a week.

“The sixth and last was sold to a young gentleman of my acquaintance. He bought more tickets than the prizes came to. He drew afterwards \$1,000; I presume, in fact he told me, he had spent every cent of it in lottery tickets; I am thus particular, and I am enabled to be so, from having kept a book in which all my tickets were registered, and I have invariably taken the names of purchasers, or a description of their persons. The lottery brokers generally do so; they are a keen set of fellows, and pretty sure not to let a person who may be so *unfortunate* as to draw

a high prize, escape their clutches. It may not be amiss to state my own experience. I have within seven years, drawn the whole of - - - - \$10,000

Half of \$24,000, - - - - 12,000

Half of 5,000, - - - - 2,500

and minor prizes of \$1,000 and downwards, to an immense amount. I have drawn at least twenty prizes of \$1,000 each, and I am now indebted for lottery tickets over \$7,000, without the means of paying a mill; and I believe my luck has been better than that of any other man in America. I have had tickets forced upon me by the venders, to the amount of \$5,000 in a single lottery. As long as there was any chance of redeeming myself from insolvency, I was willing to take the risk, and so were they, believing in my ability to pay them."

The pernicious and destructive influence of the system is justly depicted by the Hon. John Sergeant, in a speech which he delivered in Congress in the year 1829. We extract a brief passage, as well for the intrinsic value of the testimony, as for the case which is related in elucidation:—"So great," says he, "is this temptation in its actual results on society, that in a thousand cases it has urged men to the commission of acts which brought them to a jail, if not the gallows. He adverted to one very affecting instance in illustration of his position. It was the case of an aged and highly respectable man of character, till then unblemished, and of such standing as to bring him into an office of great trust in a monied institution. In consequence of a defalcation in the funds, the gray hairs of this unhappy man were brought down to the lowest state of ignominy, by his being tried and convicted for purloining the money of the institution. It was found on examining into the case, that all this amount of funds had gone into a lottery office. The man had been

dealing in lottery tickets a long time before, (in tickets authorised by law,) but being unfortunate, he yielded in despair to the force of a propensity which sometimes gets the mastery of the strongest minds, and which is sure to make an easy conquest over weak ones."

The case of C——g is well known by many persons in this city. He was teller in the Mechanics' Bank, sustained an unexceptionable character, and had an interesting family around him, to which he was affectionately attached. His income was sufficient for his comfortable support, but attracted by the splendid prizes in lottery schemes, in which the price of a ticket was fifty dollars, he embarked, and purchased to very large amounts. It is calculated that he lost about *ten thousand dollars* by his lottery adventures. Necessity induced fraud, and he lost his situation in the bank ; he became poor in purse and despicable in principle ; and he died in a miserable condition—an object of disgrace and scorn.

A person in the laboratory of the Messrs. ——, drew 20,000 dollars. With this sum he furnished a house, and commenced living in a style totally different from that to which he had been accustomed. He contracted intemperate habits, and in twelve months squandered the whole amount of his prize. He became miserably poor, incapable of working, and very dissolute.

A young man of the utmost respectability was gradually drawn into gambling in the lottery. He purchased to such an extent beyond his means, that for the purpose of paying the lottery broker, he was obliged to have recourse to **overdrawing** the bank. This he did to the amount of five thousand dollars.

The cashier of a bank in ——, who had long enjoyed the entire confidence of his fellow-citizens, was discovered to be a heavy defaulter. He at length confessed that the

cause of his ruin was the lottery, in which he had largely embarked. He was insolvent to the amount of fifty thousand dollars.

A married woman of respectable character commenced gambling in the lottery. She lost a large sum, which she had secretly abstracted from the desk of her husband—the result of his hard earnings. Becoming alarmed and unhappy from the apprehension that he would miss the money, she submitted to prostitution to enable her to replace it. The facts were subsequently developed, and the family, in consequence, “were ruined and broken up.”

A young man, a clerk in a wholesale store, was tempted to try his fortune in the purchase of tickets. To carry on his purchases he was obliged to borrow money upon the credit of his employer. The fraud was finally detected, and an investigation resulted in finding him a defaulter to the amount of eighteen hundred dollars. He was, besides, indebted one thousand dollars to the lottery brokers.

There is another instance of a clerk in one of our most respectable counting houses, who, from his losses in the lottery, was induced to embezzle money intrusted to him for deposit in bank, alleging that the amount was less than represented. The frequent recurrence of the trick led to his detection. The total prostration of his character and ruin of his prospects, were the consequence.

W—— of —— failed, in the autumn of 1832. He had been engaged in what appeared to be a profitable retail dry goods business. The cause of his defalcation was discovered to be the lottery, in which he had lost about five thousand dollars.

Our list of examples is concluded with the following narrative, kindly communicated by a very respectable gentleman, who is connected with the institution to which

it refers. The principal facts—that of the abstraction and its origin—are matters of notoriety in this community. We alter only to abridge :

“The evils of lottery gambling were never, perhaps, more strongly exemplified, than in the case of that infatuated man, Clew, the porter of the Bank of the United States. This individual occupied, in the Bank a very confidential station, and although many small sums of monies were occasionally missed, under circumstances very trying to the officers, and particularly to the Tellers, yet no suspicion had attached to Clew, so exemplary had been his general conduct. One day, the officers of the bank in settling their daily morning balances with the city banks, missed two notes of a thousand dollars each. * * * In a few hours both the missing notes were presented by two lottery brokers, who upon being asked from whom they had been received, stated from Clew, the porter of the United States’ Bank. To each of these brokers he was then indebted for lottery tickets more than a thousand dollars, and when thus detected there were found in his possession 426 whole tickets, 462 half tickets, 1361 quarter tickets, and 78 eighths of tickets, in various lotteries, making in all two thousand, three hundred and twenty-seven chances, which after having been all drawn and examined by order of the bank, produced *less than twenty dollars!* Facts afterwards disclosed satisfied the officers of the bank, that this man had been for years led away by this worst of all species of gambling, because the most seductive and the least odious, and had constantly been defrauding the institution that confided in him, of sums of money for the purpose of carrying on his nefarious speculations.

“It is scarcely necessary to add, that his villanies met with the reward consequent upon them,—trial, conviction,

imprisonment,—and that with blasted reputation and ruined character, he yet lives, a lasting monument of the miserable effects of this pernicious system.”

It is a remarkable fact, that in all cases of delinquency on the part of officers of the Bank of the United States, whether belonging to the principal institution or its branches, the unlawful fruits have been squandered in lottery offices. So far too as any knowledge has transpired in relation to the origin of delinquencies in our *local* banks, the same remark will apply—they are all traceable to, and centre in, the same shocking reservoirs of ruined virtue, shipwrecked fortunes, and blighted hopes!

The instances of fraud and crime which have been noticed as growing out of the system, might be greatly multiplied. But we forbear, and shall content ourselves with introducing a few examples of *the disastrous effects of what is termed good fortune in drawing the large prizes.*

A person of the name of J——, who was engaged in a respectable grocery business, drew several prizes amounting to forty thousand dollars. He quitted business, and was persuaded to adopt an expensive style of living. He very soon expended the whole sum, became intemperate, and died insolvent and broken hearted.

A man who resided in ——, drew a prize of thirty thousand dollars among other smaller ones. He continued his adventures, and eventually failed, fifty thousand dollars in debt!

A man who was pursuing a small but successful business, purchased some lottery tickets, and drew one thousand dollars. Again he drew ten thousand dollars, and on another occasion five thousand dollars. The public heard of all these prizes, but not of the expenditure in tickets necessary to secure them. He neglected his business, and finally abandoned it for that of the lottery. His habits became dissipated, and he is now reduced to penury.

Mr. ———, whose good fortune in the lottery had been extensively bruited as wonderful, failed a few years ago. He had once drawn a prize of \$40,000, and others of inferior amount. The account which he had kept showed an aggregate of \$80,000, drawn at different periods, but his expenditure for tickets amounted to the sum of \$120,000! He was insolvent \$70,000!*

If we refer to the records of our Insolvent Court, we shall find how very large a proportion of those who have recourse to the insolvent laws, attribute their misfortunes to the lottery alone.† Intemperance, as can be proved by almost innumerable instances, almost invariably follows as one of its consequences; for what is more likely to be resorted to as a cure for the tedium of idleness or the agony of successive losses than the excitement and insensibility to be found in the glass? The tenants of the alms-house and penitentiary at Philadelphia, bear abundant testimony to its baleful influences. In a very recent case of commitment to the latter, it was acknowledged by the offender, that the lottery was the occasion of his crime, and the first and last cause of his ruin.

These cases are tedious, but they cannot be uninteresting to any one who regards the welfare or morals of the community, as matters of moment. Would licensed gambling tables be introductive of so much distress, such variety and blackness of crime? The ademption to regular purchasers *must* always be great, for if every ticket in a lottery were taken by a single adventurer, he would find that after the deduction of profits for the manager and the vender, and the defalcation from the nominal amount of the prizes, nearly the *half* of his disbursements

* Vide Note 2, Appendix.

† Vide Note 3, Appendix.

could not return. No other gambling is so ruinous in its ultimate results. Besides it is affirmed, and the argument is by no means without plausibility and force, that the lottery by *Permutation*, is radically a cheat, because it can be ascertained which tickets are entitled to the prizes.—But setting aside the inevitable losses and the inherent frauds of the system, the lottery is *more extensively and deeply* prejudicial than other modes of gambling.—The odium of holding tickets in a lottery may be prevented by committing to another the charge of the purchase. Not so with *manual* gambling, in which, as personal superintendence is necessary, the disgrace attendant upon participation, cannot be obviated. Thus it is, that persons pretending to respectability are induced to embark in lottery adventures, who until a long course of obliquity has rendered them callous to its consequences, would not incur the disgrace.

The risks are greater in the lottery than in other gaming; for the risk of the latter may be as one to one, or greater, at the discretion of the player, but the hazards incident to the former are frequently in the proportion of one to a thousand. In the one, loss of fortune may ensue in a single night; but in the other, the excitements of hope and the agony of disappointment may alternate in such rapid succession, that the unhappy adventurer may have a protracted struggle with the fickleness of chance before he may know the result of the contest. In the meantime he is rendered a useless, not to say pernicious member of society,—his principles are contaminated by familiar association with infamy and guilt, and his habits debauched by indulging in the excesses to which he has been driven. The life of a regular gambler may admit of useful occupation in the intervals of play. But the adventurer in the lottery broods by day and night over his

tickets—his imagination is gloated with the grand idea of possessing the capital prize—and his mind is held in that state of constant excitement, which admits of nothing to divert it from the one great and absorbing object of its contemplation. Ordinary gambling may ruin the victim of its infatuation at once, and drive him to suicide, or he may borrow from his successful companion, beyond the possibility of repayment, in the hope of retrieving his broken fortunes. The speculator in the lottery, on the other hand, is not vanquished at a blow, but in the caprices or accidents of the wheel, though often the loser, he is sometimes the gainer—new stimulus is thus imparted to his cupidity—he is urged on to new ventures—great good fortune only whets his appetite for greater—and continued ill luck only nourishes the hope of its speedy termination. He soon finds that he is incapable of a higher effort than discussing the merits of a scheme, or lounging upon the counter of a lottery office, so that that which was resorted to as promising a great blessing, has become the bane of his happiness and the solemn business of his life. When his means are exhausted, and his friends lose their confidence, he cannot gratify his passion for the game, or his pruriency for its successes, by appealing like the regular gamester to the fortunate winner for a new supply. Driven as well by the desperate necessity of ministering to his excitement as by depraved principles and reckless despair, he is ready for the perpetration of any enormity. Which then has the preponderance of evil as an engine of state? If the risks be greater by which the consequent prospect of loss must be commensurately increased—if it be more likely to lead to incurable idleness—if its pernicious influence be more widely diffused—and if its inevitable and more certain tendency is to intemperance, to perfidity, to fraud, and to crime, we can be at no loss to

which to attribute the loathsome superiority.—But placing the lottery upon the same level with other gambling—placing it upon the footing of a great moral, and, in our country especially, a great political evil, may we ask whether its continuance by law should be permitted, under a form of government which depends for its existence and conservation upon the high minded purity of its members? Whether that which is so directly at war with the whole policy of this country, whose every interest consists in making wealth the fruit of intelligent industry and presenting every incentive to useful and honourable exertion, should be cherished and nurtured by the genial sunshine of protective legislation?

But not only is the lottery injurious in the abstract, as contributing to great pecuniary distress and moral wrong, but the system as conducted in Pennsylvania, and no doubt from the existence of similar causes elsewhere, superinduces additional evil. Every means seems to be employed, every incitement resorted to by the guardians of the lottery, to render it as extensively prejudicial and as radically hurtful as possible. Let us take a brief view of its administration in Pennsylvania, since the remarks which apply to it here, may, with very few exceptions, be made in relation to other parts of the Union in which the lottery prevails.

There exists but one lottery which has even the semblance of law in Pennsylvania, and that had commencement in the year 1795. Though an act of assembly passed three years before, prohibited the sale of foreign lottery tickets under a severe pecuniary penalty, and the act of 1811, incorporating the Union Canal Company, greatly increased the forfeiture for the exclusive benefit of the Company; yet the law has been infringed in the face of day by the open and notorious vending

of a greater quantity of tickets, by twenty times, than the Company have ever been permitted to sell. The continual augmentation of lottery offices in Philadelphia, illustrates the progressive character of the evil. In 1809 three offices only are recollected to have existed in Philadelphia; in 1827 the number was computed at sixty; in 1831 they were ascertained to amount to one hundred and seventy-seven; and now, in the beginning of 1833, the number may be estimated at above two hundred. In these offices were vended, during the last year, tickets in 420 schemes, whose prizes amount to 53,136,930, dollars, as may be seen by the subjoined tabular statement :

States authorizing Lotteries.	Amount of Prizes.	Number of Schemes.
NEW YORK, - - - - -	\$13,188,818	73
VIRGINIA, - - - - -	10,010,153	65
CONNECTICUT, - - - - -	7,638,201	81
RHODE ISLAND, - - - - -	7,184,486	62
DELAWARE & NORTH CAROLINA, (joint grants,)	3,174,324	34
MARYLAND, - - - - -	2,028,162	17
DELAWARE, - - - - -	614,408	29
*Aggregate for 11 months, - - - - -	\$43,838,552	361
Add one-eleventh, (to complete the year,)	3,985,322	33
Aggregate for one year, - - - - -	\$47,823,874	394
If to this be added the amount of the <i>Union Canal Lotteries</i> drawn within the same period, - - - - -	5,313,056	26
Grand Total, - - - - -	\$53,136,930	420

Of these 420 schemes, whose tickets have been constantly for sale in Philadelphia during the year 1832, all are *expressly prohibited by law*, except the 26 issued by the Union Canal under an authority which almost every one admits to be terminated. Thus the people of Pennsylvania are made to contribute to the internal im-

* Taken from an accurate list of schemes up to December 1, 1832.

provements of New York, Virginia, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware and North Carolina, Maryland, and Delaware, as well as to pay a large sum to a Company of their own state, whose grant has expired. Nor are the other states in which there are large cities, exempt from similar burthens—each is taxed for the local convenience of the others, in proportion to the facilities presented for imposition. But Pennsylvania, by being the great mart for nearly all the lotteries in the United States, has reason for stronger and louder complaint. In defiance of all her legislative prohibitions of foreign lotteries, her citizens are annually taxed to an immense amount—perhaps for a church in Connecticut, or a rail road through the Dismal Swamp, or for other improvements in which she has as remote a prospect of interest or advantage.

The amount of purchases in the United States, we cannot pretend to assert, but the pecuniary *loss* per week to the people of Philadelphia may be estimated at thirty thousand dollars. This sum is nearly *lost* to the people, for the only pretended benefit accruing to the cause of physical improvement is the inconsiderable sum of thirty thousand dollars per annum, *supposed* to be applied to the purposes of internal navigation. It follows that all the pecuniary distress—all the idleness and crime superinduced—are inflicted upon the citizens of Pennsylvania, without the hope of benefit or the expectation of return.

The drawings in Philadelphia are frequent, and it is believed about every fortnight throughout the year. Witness the assemblages at the arcade on these occasions. Hundreds of wretched persons are collected, whose intense anxiety is read in their flushed and distorted countenances. Listen to the loud imprecations and blasphemy mingled with the scarcely audible whisper of profane,

delirious, and intoxicating joy, upon the announcement of a prize ! Follow the motley throng upon dispersion, and witness the agonizing disappointment and despair which ninety-nine out of a hundred exhibit ! Yet to the relief of these hope soon comes in the chances of to-morrow. They again attend, and with a beating pulse and palpitating heart, hear—another disappointment in another *blank* ! Are not such spectacles and scenes a disgrace to, and reflection upon humanity ?

In the two hundred lottery offices in Philadelphia, it is estimated that there may be five or six hundred persons employed to attend to the business of the respective offices. These persons subsist and grow rich by preying upon their deluded fellow-citizens. Boys of the tenderest age are initiated into all the mysteries of the craft, which are those of habitual falsehood and schemes of rapine. The arts that are practised to induce a purchase, and the cheats devised for robbing the wretched victim of his prize when he happens to draw one, are too notorious to need elucidation by example. Nevertheless, a remarkable instance of the latter shall be recorded. A person residing in or near Germantown held a ticket which drew the capital prize. Before the fact was known to the holder, three men rode out from the city, and so frightened the man by representing to him that his ticket was forged, that he was induced to relinquish it. The men returned to the city, obtained the prize, and divided it amongst them. The fraud was subsequently detected, and the culprits convicted and punished.—It would be endless to notice all the species of petty frauds which are daily committed ; such as disposing of five and seven quarters of tickets, selling and insuring tickets which have long since been drawn, and the forgery of tickets and prizes. We shall here give an instance of the last. A young man by the name of Ebenezer Wright,

was brought before the Mayor some time ago, charged with presenting at a lottery office, to be *cashéd*, a ticket whose number was entitled to the prize. The report of the case is contained in a newspaper, and concludes thus:—
 “Wright has been dealing largely in lottery tickets for a number of years past, by which he has sunk a considerable sum of money, notwithstanding on one occasion he drew a prize of 1500 dollars. He remarked to the officer who arrested him, that lotteries had cheated him out of a clever fortune, and he thought retaliation no more than justice.”

Tickets are so subdivided into minute parts, that 12½ cents is sufficient to purchase a chance. Thus a lure is held out to youth of both sexes and of all conditions, and every motive is presented for stealing the trivial sum which gives an opportunity for the capital prize. Accordingly, we find the apprentice to a trade, the indented girl, and the chimney sweep, among the adventurers. The venders, as if to secure customers at any hazard, have standing current accounts with girls in kitchens, apprentices to trades, and young clerks in stores, who, from month to month, are debited with tickets, and credited with prizes. The result is always disastrous in the privation of all they possessed, and insolvency to a frightful amount.*

From such a melancholy exhibition of the abuses of lotteries, and the number of individuals sustained and enriched by them, the inference is unavoidable that the number of adventurers must be proportionably great. There is no means of ascertaining with any desirable precision, what number of people buy lottery tickets. But it is certain, and may be relied upon as an incontestable fact, that *hundreds of persons in Philadelphia depend upon their success in the lottery for their subsistence, and pursue no*

* Vide Note 4, Appendix.

other means of livelihood. Can it be believed, that in a city like Philadelphia, there can exist so much crime, dissipation, and idleness? In a city where honest and useful exertion is so well repaid, where benevolence is so actively employed to promote virtue by the establishment of libraries and schools—to prevent vice by the institution of a Refuge for young delinquents—and to arrest its career by presenting opportunities of reform in separate imprisonment? It is nevertheless, true, that *hundreds* pursue no other occupation than inspect schemes, purchase tickets, and attend to the drawings, with the other venial devices for cozenage and fraud which are its necessary concomitants. If it be the duty of government to encourage idleness, that duty may be accomplished through the instrumentality of the *lottery*. If the objects of laws be to introduce domestic unhappiness and every diversity of criminal propensity, it is apparent that the *lottery* will well achieve those objects.

Upon what principle can enlightened legislation, having other objects and duties, permit an instrument of this sort to continue? Is it for the value of the money raised, or is it because the losses incident to lottery speculations may be considered in the light of voluntary taxation? Its deluded victim does not regard it as a tax, but as the road to sudden wealth, dispensing with the necessity of labour. If it be called taxation, it is unjust because it is unequal, and comes chiefly from the pockets of the poorest of the people. May not money be raised by a mode which is equal in its operation, which takes from the rich man in proportion to his property, and which, not confined to the necessitous, will not dry up the means of future support, and cut off the possibility of future contribution? If the physical improvement of the state be one object of the lottery, let us not forget what more than countervails the benefit—the moral deterioration of the citizen. If revenue be its ob-

ject, let us not forget that larger expenditures will be requisite for the construction of new alms-houses and new penitentiaries. In fine, there is no mode of raising money which is so unequal and oppressive—no species of adventure in which the chances are so many against the adventurer—none in which the infatuation attending it is so powerful and engrossing—none which inflicts so much distress—and none which produces more general and atrocious criminality. The Committee of the House of Commons, near to the close of their report, thus express their opinion of the lottery as a measure of finance. It is especially true as applied to this country.—“Your Committee are conscious that they are far from having exhausted all the grounds which might be urged, that the lottery ought not to be resorted to as a financial resource. The reasoning upon them appears to your committee to apply with peculiar force, to the situation, the habits, and all the circumstances of a great manufacturing and commercial nation, in which it must be dangerous, in the highest degree, to diffuse a spirit of speculation, whereby the mind is misled from those habits of continued industry which insure the acquisition of comfort and independence, to delusive dreams of sudden and enormous wealth, which most generally end in abject poverty and complete misery.”

The great question remains, what will have the effect of extirpating so prodigious an evil? Experience has proved, both in England and America, that no regulations can palliate its mischiefs, and no prohibitions, though armed with penalties, are adequate to give to it a prescribed restriction. If the act of 1805, passed by the Assembly of Pennsylvania, for preventing insurances by forfeitures be coolly condemned—if the acts of 1792 and 1811, likewise annexing pecuniary penalties to the sale of foreign tickets be inadequate to their purpose, what confidence is to be re-

posed in fines and forfeitures? Could not its destruction be effected by imposing imprisonment as for a criminal offence? Should not that which destroys the peace of families and is the origin of every criminal excess, be itself visited by criminal punishment? We commend the subject to the anxious and deliberate attention of the philanthropist and patriot, as incalculably momentous to the present well-being of society, and to the future prospects of the country.



APPENDIX.

NOTE 1. Page 8.

Was quote from an excellent book, designed to show the evils of the lottery, a passage in reply to the allegation often made, that it is not a *game*, and consequently does not fall under the denunciation against ordinary gambling. The book is in the form of a dialogue, and the passage quoted is in reply to that observation.

“Are not the silent partners in a game as much interested as those who are manually engaged? Are the gamblers upon the turf less interested for not riding their own horses? Every ticket holder is a partner in the lottery game, and the managers are their deputed agents to play it. But the managers are by no means disinterested, their commissions upon the amount staked being a powerful stimulous to exertion; and from causes which I have not descended to investigate, they not only withhold all profits from those who furnish the capital, but absorb a great portion of the capital itself. A case has been publicly stated in this city, and not disproved, where the adventurers in a single lottery suffered a loss of nearly one hundred thousand dollars. I make no allegation of fraud; but that men, without capital, should realize such immense profits from their labour, *appears* irreconcilable with fair dealing. I know not what so essentially constitutes *gaming*, as placing property at the disposition of hazard; and in no case, actual or supposed, can it be more completely subjected to the control of chance, than in the lottery wheel. The conclusion then is just, that managers, to protect their profession from suspicions of fraud and circumvention, in drawing the lot, must either acknowledge the lot to be a fair game of chance, or by denying it confirm those suspicions.”

* * * * *

“I have heard you with patience and without surprise; for I am no stranger to the influence of avarice upon principle, nor of sophis-

try required to 'make the worse appear the better reason,' and with your indulgence, will analyze some of your positions, and try their validity by the standard of rectitude. Your description of gaming is correct; and I am the more particularly indebted for your explanation, from its special application to lottery especulation; for you have urged no reasons for the prohibition of gaming, that do not apply with aggravated force to what I denominate *lottery gambling*. You mention *idleness* as a concomitant of gaming. What has a greater tendency to remit exertions than the expectation of independence without it? You justly insert *dissipation* in your list of evils attached to gaming. In what other game is the subversion of reason so necessary for the success of the players as in that of lottery? This is evinced by the uniform support given by lottery dealers to the licensing system, and their opposition to the temperance reformation. What class of venders make sale of so many lottery tickets as retailers of ardent spirits? The winner must *heat* for his good luck, and the loser drown his grief in the bottle. You say that *dishonesty* is an appurtenance of gaming. I agree with you, and hope to convince you that no game so necessarily engenders this vice as the one which lottery brokers play for a living. Be not disturbed; I bring no 'railing accusation' against the *players*, however much justice might inculcate them. My business is with the dishonest principle which is inseparably interwoven with the system. You pertinently annex *covetousness*, *avarice*, and disregard to the rights of others, to the catalogue of delinquencies. I shall consider them all one family, and treat them as kindred. What better evidence can be produced of the existence of dishonest principles in men, than their coveting their neighbour's goods, without paying a consideration? And where is this principle inculcated so effectually and unblushingly as in lotteries? Here adventurers are enticed by every seductive artifice to risk their money. The allurements of sudden wealth are displayed in their most dazzling colours. The devout aspiration 'lead us not into temptation,' which was enjoined by Him who 'spake as never man spake,' is little heeded by the adroit and interested manager. The ignorant and unwary are thus entrapped, and made the willing converts to sordid selfishness. The ties of social interest are loosened, and the cords of reciprocal good will severed. Liberality is supplanted by covetousness, and generosity by avarice; and the gamester, despoiled of all the benevolent feelings of his nature, lives for himself alone. He envies the prosperous, and asperses the good. He well

knows that others must lose what he hopes to win ; and the climax of his hope is the ruin of his neighbours. Such unsocial feelings and debasing affections are generated by the lottery system, and 'grow with its growth and strengthen with its strength.' They take full possession of the minds of adventurous youth, and moral honesty 'has not where to lay its head.'

"Do you doubt these truths, sir? attend the police courts of our city, and witness the incipient progress of these principles in juvenile offenders. See their early depravity nourished by the poisonous aliment of gambling speculation ; and if I am not misinformed, lottery tickets are the frequent stakes at the most filthy gambling tables. The contagion infects the whole community ; neither town, village, nor hamlet is free from the contamination. Mechanics and children issue unauthorised schemes, and to 'conspire to defraud' is the popular test of ingenious merit, and has been deemed legally excusable by our courts of judicature. Your plea in support of the lottery system, that its existence is indispensable for the accomplishment of objects of public utility, I contend is untenable. The *equality* of the contributions which you assert, is warranted by no experience ; the *reverse* is the fact. *Nine-tenths* of the amount raised by lottery for public improvements, I have confidence to believe, are paid by the poorer class of people, to whom these improvements can be of little or no value."

NOTE 2. Page 25.

Though *cases* in sufficient number are mentioned in the text for the purposes of illustration, we cannot consent to exclude the following. In every material fact these likewise are believed to be entirely correct ; and several are very important.

"A young man, clerk in a highly respectable store in Market street, with a salary rather exceeding his expenses, was in the habit of expending the excess in the purchase of lottery tickets ; the brokers became acquainted with him, and commenced taking tickets to him at his residence ; after some time he purchased by the package, leaving the tickets with the brokers, they to pay themselves out of the prizes, and return him the *overplus*—the *costs* generally exceeding the amount

of the prizes, he gave his notes for the difference. At one time, being pressed for money, he borrowed money in the name of his employers, expecting to refund from the profits of a lottery to draw in a day or two ; he was unsuccessful—his employer was called on for the money borrowed—discovered the transaction, and dismissed him from his employment—he was sued by one of the brokers, and took the benefit, indebted to lottery brokers about \$3,000.”

“ A respectable mechanic, a freeholder, and supposed to be well off, was in the habit of purchasing occasionally a ticket, drew a prize, and afterwards increased his purchases. He was beset by the brokers at every drawing of a lottery to take the tickets remaining *on hand*—sometimes the loss would not be great, but generally, there was almost a total loss ; on some occasions he was stopped by brokers on Sundays when about going to church with his family—they stated that news of a drawing would be in by the mail of that day. He continued this about two years, and then stopped, with a loss of about \$12,000.”

“ About four years ago, a young man entered into the employ of a respectable cabinet-maker in this city, as a journeyman—in which situation he continued about two years, conducting himself while under the notice of his employer with great propriety. His industry and application to business were such that his weekly earnings were generally greater than those of any other person hired in the establishment. The exemplary manner in which he conducted gained him the esteem and confidence of his employer, who frequently entrusted large sums of money to his care—and his weekly bills for work were made out with so much accuracy and fidelity that they seldom needed any correction. Thus he continued for a considerable length of time, giving entire satisfaction both in the performance of his work, and also, in the sobriety and steadiness of his deportment. At length it was observed that his dress became shabby and neglected, and he was mostly very bare of money—so that it was a subject of surprise and wonder what he could do with his money. One article of apparel after another disappeared, until he was left almost without clothing, and eventually he sold his last hat for a dollar. Suspicions had, before this time, been excited, that he had fallen into some evil habits, and it was found that the proceeds of his hat were expended in the purchase of a lottery ticket! Here, the sad mystery of his poverty was at once unveiled ;—

his earnings had been squandered in this worst species of gambling. Again and again he had lost, and still seduced by the vain hope of retrieving his ruined circumstances, in the desperation which such a course usually leads to, he determined to make one more attempt—to “try his luck” once more, and, in order to do so, he sold the only hat he had to wear. But as is usual with all lottery gamblers, he lost again; and, dreadful to relate, in the extremity to which this wicked system generally brings its deluded victims, he was tempted to commit FORGERY. The principle of honesty and sense of shame, already weakened by the debasing practice of dealing in lottery tickets, proved too feeble to withstand the temptation, and he forged a check for two hundred and fifty dollars! Detection soon followed the commission of this dishonest act—he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to solitary confinement in the penitentiary—where he now deplores his first yielding to the purchase of a lottery ticket, which has blasted his hopes and prospects for life, and stamped a character, once fair and honourable, with infamy and disgrace.”

“A young man about nineteen years of age entered a lottery office in Exchange street, on Monday morning, and bought part of a lottery ticket, which he paid for with a pair of new gloves and a black silk handkerchief. A person who kept his office in part of the same room noticed the circumstance, and after the young man retired, he advanced and inquired of the vender at what price he had taken those articles. The vender answered that he had allowed forty cents for the gloves and about sixty for the handkerchief. Being a judge of the articles, and knowing that their estimated value could not be less than three dollars, he took them from the lottery vender and proceeded into Washington street, with a determination to find the young man and ascertain whether his suspicion that they had been stolen was well founded. After showing them at several stores, they were recognized and the young man identified. When charged with having fraudulently obtained the property, the young man made a full confession, and stated that he had been in the habit of depredating upon his employer’s property for some time, in order to raise money to buy lottery tickets. What has been done with the delinquent we have not been informed. This is another glaring and startling instance of the mischievous consequences resulting from lotteries. Here is a young man probably ruined for life—whose charac-

ter was unblemished—who was tempted to a course of vice and crime, merely to buy a lottery ticket—to make his fortune! Let young men take warning from his example.”

“To ————.

“Sir—In compliance with your request to furnish you with any information I might possess of the injurious effects of lotteries, I beg leave to state, that I was intimately acquainted for many years with Mr. ———; that he was an excellent mechanic, well acquainted with his business, which appeared to be prosperous and was pretty extensive.

“He died in March, 1829, and I was called upon to assist at the examination of his papers, and became one of his administrators. We found a large number of lottery tickets, and his estate was entirely insolvent; those creditors who were not secured by judgments or mortgages got nothing.

“I have no hesitation in saying, that I think the lotteries were the principal cause of his ruin. He left a family entirely unprovided for, and his losses in lottery tickets must have been very great, and I cannot in any other way account for the great deficiency in his estate.

“I remain, very respectfully, yours,

J. R.”

“A coloured boy, in the family of ———, was tempted to gamble in the lottery. He stole six dollars from a white servant girl residing in the family, and continued his lottery speculations till he drew five hundred dollars. This led to his detection, when other frauds were brought to light.”

“A person of the name of W—— drew a prize of forty thousand dollars, and several smaller ones. He continued to purchase in the lottery until he lost, not only all he had gained, but failed seventy thousand dollars in debt.”

“W——, a dentist, lost twenty thousand dollars by a long course of gambling in the lottery in connexion with C——. Both were completely ruined.”

“A pocket book containing the following letter was lost in this town

yesterday. The letter was not sealed. The gentleman, into whose hands it fell, opened it, for the purpose of ascertaining to whom the pocket book belonged. The letter contained thirteen dollars of good Portland money, bound on its way to the principal lottery office in town, to purchase tickets.

"The gentleman believed as we do, that the publication of the letter would do good, and therefore put it into our hands. The owner has been found, and has received his pocket book, letter, and money; and we think it not improbable that before the day's paper goes to press, the money will be in the hands of Mr. Mudge & Co., for tickets. This individual stated that this thirteen dollars was all the money he had in the world, except nine shillings.—*Portland Daily Advertiser*.

"*Portland, Sept. 23, 1832.*

"*Mr. Mudge & Co:*—Being brought from affluence to a state of absolute need, and one of the aggravating kind; three years ago I was in possession of an elegant farm in New Hampshire, Coos county; it was considered to be worth \$3,000. One of my neighbours, by the name of Smith, had \$1,000, and proposed to go to trading. I, not being very well, consented to mortgage my farm for \$1,500, for two years. Said Smith took his money and mine and went to Boston to purchase the goods, and for me to get a store in readiness for the reception of the goods at the appointed time, but no Smith returned. Two weeks more passed away, but they were very long,—no Smith came then. I began to be exceedingly troubled. I went to Boston: he had not been there. I pursued him to St. Marks, East Florida—gave it up—never heard a sound of him since. I rented the farm ever since. It is very much out of repair, not being able to do much on account of my severe loss of what I gained by the sweat of my brow. Smith has been the cause of my family experiencing months of pain and sorrow. I have a wife, five children, and aged parents, and a decrepid sister, all who look to me for their support. My parents must go to the poorhouse in spite of all that I can do; yes, that must be their doom. My property is reduced to one cow and pig; and nothing to subsist upon this winter of any consequence. I have been to Boston this season to see what I could do. I received a letter from the man that I mortgaged my place to: says he, I have been to see your family; they are all well, but full of trouble. If you will get the \$1,500 in six weeks after the redemption

is out, you may have the place again, providing you will get sufficient bondmen for the interest. *If you can get the \$1,500 sounded and resounded in my ear.* I took what I had earned this season, went to the lottery office, and purchased \$57 worth of tickets of your lottery. It so happened, to my ill-fortune, that I drew only \$11 from the 57. There went my summer's work. Then I was down again. Then the thoughts of maintaining my family this winter rushed on me in torrents.—Thought I, to Portland I will go, and from there home. As I came into the city I concluded to tarry awhile. After I took lodgings this thought came into my head; whether good or not, I know not; but I hope it will prove a benefit to me, viz: to give you a true detail of my situation, and inclose what money I have; and if you could work it so that I could draw a little something to support my family this winter, if nothing more, this little sum of money that I have inclosed in this paper will be a productive one. There is not one person on earth that is more needy of fourteen or fifteen hundred dollars than poor me—not more deserving. Now I pray *you* to adhere to my petition, if you can assist any way to do it, so that I can go home to my family with a joyful heart. I never will divulge it during life; no one but God in heaven knows what my mind on this subject is. It is dire necessity that induces me to write you thus. I never thought of such a thing before, and hope you will take no offence. Please to drop a line in the post office immediately, for I want to know my fate. Do, I entreat you to do the best for me that you can. You say that you will warrant nine prizes in twenty tickets; it is a mystery to me; but you know best. You can put the capital prize in quarters, and give me all the chance you can, says your distressed

E. H. H.—.

“Please to drop a line in the Portland Post-office, when to come for the tickets. I purchase quarters in the three thousand dollars lottery. I want you to let me have all you can for fifteen dollars. I am an entire stranger in this place; every thing looks very dismal to me. Cold winter is fast approaching. When I look home, O, my heart aches.

“I don't see why twenty prizes don't come in twenty tickets, as they are all put into the wheel at once, or as likely not to be one prize in a package. Losses, writs, and executions, and doctors' bills, have eat up four thousand dollars for me; but if I could get the farm back again, I think I should be a happy man again.

"I want you to let me have tickets that you know will draw something—I know you can—because I want to go home soon and make them all rejoice. Pray don't mention what I have wrote to you."

"A gentleman, worth considerable money, commenced the lottery business in this city, about two years since, and did a very large business, and risked a great many tickets for himself; so many that he stopped with the loss of all he commenced with, and much indebted to the managers. A friend of this gentleman called on the managers to see what arrangement could be made about the balance due. The managers very readily informed him, that they should not trouble Mr. — for what he owed them, as "he had not only ruined himself, but had broke more men than any other vender in so short a time.' "

NOTE 3. Page 25.

The following Table of insolvent persons who have sustained losses by dealing in lottery tickets, is made from the Records of the Insolvent Court of Philadelphia, by inspection of the petitions themselves, deliberately sworn or affirmed to by the petitioners. One case only is given from distinct recollection, as having occurred in 1826; a few are given in 1828 and 1829; but in the last three years, to wit, in 1830, 1831, and 1832, a regular examination has been instituted, and in those years, the list is believed to be complete. It may be observed that many losses are occasioned by purchases of lottery tickets where no mention is made of them in the petitions, but the fact is frequently elicited by examinations at the bar. Such cases, which are numerous, are of course not included in the table.

LOSSES ON LOTTERY TICKETS BY INSOLVENT DEBTORS.

T. H.	Petition for March term, 1826, No. 77,	About \$50,000
S. P.	" " " " 1828, " 119,	Amount not known
T. H.	" " Sept. 1828, " 98,	\$200
W. D.	" " " " 1828, " 46,	returns the following
	lottery brokers as his creditors, to wit:—	
	N. & S. Sylvester note,	\$1294 82
	John Francis, book account,	82 24
	John Reeder, do.	32 87
	P. J. Decker, do.	32 47
	Robertson & Little, book account,	13 00
	Robert T. Bicknell, do.	27 31
	The whole amount is,	<u>\$1482 71</u>

M. D., Jun.	Petition for June term, 1829, No. 48,	\$3900
T. D.	" " " " 1829, " 45,	Amount not re- membered.
H. G.	Petition for June term, 1829, No. 61,	\$4275
R. B. C.	" " " " 1829, " 21,	About 800
G. W.	" " Sept. 1829, No. 336,	between fifteen and twenty thousand dollars
T. M'Kean F.	" " " " 1829, No. 103,	At least 200
J. A.	" " " " 1829, " 14,	\$700
J. A.	" " March 1830, " 7,	Actual loss 700
J. C. B.	" " " " 1830, " 15,	Am't. not known
W. P.	" " " " 1830, " 126,	" " "
E. L.	" " " " 1830, " 127,	About \$450
L. L.	" " " " 1830, " 128,	About 450
G. A.	" " June 1830, " 11,	About 1600
J. D.	" " " " 1830, " 75,	About 100
J. B. D.	" " " " 1830, " 77,	Nearly 1400
J. K.	" " " " 1830, " 168,	550
J. R., Jr.	" " " " 1830, " 252,	\$1420 75
P. S. W.	" " " " 1830, " 319,	About 4000
C. P. Y.	" " " " 1830, " 329,	1263
A. S.	" " Sept. 1830, " 218,	350
T. W.	" " " " 1830, " 263,	About 400
D. B.	" " Dec. 1830, " 7,	More than 2500
C. L. C.	" " " " 1830, " 44,	Nearly 400
G. M'L.	" " " " 1830, " 130,	Heavy and repeated losses
J. B.	Petition for March term, 1831, " 27,	About \$100
J. S. F.	" " " " 1831, " 73,	About 2000
G. W.	" " " " 1831, " 200,	A fine for selling foreign lottery tickets, \$2000
A. G.	" " " June 1831, No. 88,	Amount not known
T. T. C.	" " " " 1831, " 52,	About 75
A. F. K. & Co.	" " " " 1831, " 114,	At least \$5000
A. N.	" " " " 1831, " 152,	200
A. G. R.	" " " " 1831, " 171,	About 500
N. S.	" " " " 1831, " 199,	Returns the following debts as due to him, viz.
	G. W. for lottery tickets,	\$4500 00
	* — — do.	2700 00
	H. W. do.	240 00
	J. F. do.	250 00
	G. A. do.	140 00
	J. L. H. do.	250 00
	L. T. do.	21 00
	J. H. do.	7 00
	G. K. L. do.	13 40
	J. F. do.	48 79
	J. N. do.	21 00
	J. T. do.	11 00
	S. B. do.	10 00
	W. B. H. do, and cash lent,	1100 00
	E. B. do.	100 00
	G. R. L. do.	22 00
	A. C. do.	100 00

The whole amount due him is **\$9534 19**

* This debt has been since satisfied.

Brought forward, Amount due N. Sylvester, \$9534 19
 The following lottery brokers are creditors:

Yates & McIntire of Philadelphia,	\$7000 00
Robertson & Little,	900 00
Yates & McIntire of New York,	800 00

Due his creditors, \$8700 00 8700 00

\$18234 19

Several of the debtors have been insolvent, and are returned in this list.

A. J. C.	Petition for Sept. term, 1831, No. 52,	About \$150
J. E.	" " " " 1831, " 87,	Amount not known
W. F.	" " " " 1831, " 100,	At least \$600
W. H.	" " " " 1831, " 131,	says that he lost two or three hundred dollars
B. W. B.	Petition for March term, 1832, No. 9,	Owes Yays & McIntire, \$25000
	Paine & Burgess,	5000
	In all,	<u>30000</u>

J. H.	" " " " 1832, No. 80,	Amount not known
R. M. S.	" " " " 1832, " 185,	\$5000
J. G. W.	" " " " 1832, " 203,	Has lost considerable sums in tickets drawn blanks
E. B.	" " June 1832, No. 5,	\$98
J. H. B.	" " " " 1832, " 25,	\$4 62½
J. P. C.	" " " " 1832, " 47,	Amount not known
A. G. D.	" " " " 1832, " 57,	" " "
J. H.	" " Sept. 1832, " 117,	" " "
H. T. R.	" " " " 1832, " 236,	The chief, and in fact only cause of his present embarrassment, is owing to his having dealt to a very considerable amount in lottery tickets, and thereby sustaining great losses.
J. H.	Petition for Dec. term, 1832, No. 97,	\$90 50
J. H.	" " " " 1832, " 102,	\$36 00
W. C.	" " " " 1832, " 37,	Has lost by having lottery tickets left on hand, about \$3000 00
	He owes Yates & McIntyre,	503 43
	Robertson & Little,	1088 53
	J. J. Robinson,	2 00
	J. H.	20 00
	In all,	<u>\$4613 96</u>

NOTE 4. Page 32.

The following extract from a recent Presentment made in New York, may be here quoted in confirmation of the text:

“ The Grand Jury cannot separate without calling the attention of the Court to the subject of lotteries. The evils arising from this source are greater than at any former period, and fall principally upon the poorer and less informed portion of the community. In the year 1824 there were but from eight to ten dealers in lottery tickets in the city, while at this time there are one hundred and forty-seven, and some of our principal streets are literally disfigured by their advertisements. Citizens and strangers are interrupted by boys and men thrusting lottery advertisements into their hands as they pass through our streets.

* * * * *

“ In order to understand some of the evils arising from the sale of foreign lottery tickets, we would specify, the running of expresses, the mispayment of prizes, the forgery of numbers, fraudulent drawers, non-payment of prizes, and last, not least, policying. On this subject we would say, there are some offices in this city that on the day the account of the drawers is received from abroad, are crowded with persons who have paid from three dollars to some shillings each, for a policy against certain numbers being drawn. These persons are mostly servants or poor people, who spend their time and means in this way, affording great temptation after they have policied away their own property to use that of others. In all these points we have sufficient evidence to make this Presentment.

“ One of our number states, that during the late epidemic he had charge of a district in the upper part of the city for the purpose of attending to the wants of the poor, and in conversing with some of the destitute, he learned that they had spent their earnings in procuring lottery tickets. Another states, that he knew an individual that expended all his earnings (above paying his necessary expenses) for a year, which amounted to several hundred dollars. Another says, that not long since it came to his personal knowledge that a person was intrusted with about seven hundred dollars to take to another part of the country, but in this city he was induced to purchase a ticket, which was a blank. He then ventured more to gain what was lost, and went on till all was gone; the last sum he spent was two hundred dollars at one time for tickets in a fit of desperation.

“ If such a mass of facts respecting this evil has come to the personal knowledge of so small a number of individuals as compose this Grand Jury, what must be the sum total of misery caused by the practice complained of?”